VZCZCXRO4291 PP RUEHBW RUEHIK RUEHPOD RUEHYG DE RUEHMD #0452 1130834 ZNR UUUUU ZZH P 220834Z APR 08 FM AMEMBASSY MADRID TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4643 INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY 0390 RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 0640 RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY 0048 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0913 RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 1487 RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY 1504 RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0175 RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE PRIORITY 0172

UNCLAS MADRID 000452

SIPDIS

SIPDIS SENSITIVE

EUR/RPM FOR PROSEN USOSCE FOR DIANA BROWN

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: BMGT OSCE PGOV PREL PTER SP AF

SUBJECT: SPAIN SUPPORTS EVENTUAL OSCE ROLE INSIDE

AFGHANISTAN

REF: A. STATE 39820

¶B. PARIS 753

(SBU) The DCM delivered reftel demarche to Spanish MFA Political Director Rafael Dezcallar on April 21. Dezcallar sought to clarify the Spanish position, stating that Spain does not oppose an eventual role for the OSCE inside Afghanistan, and that indeed such a role would be the ideal end result of OSCE involvement. However, in the immediate term, Spain would support initial efforts to develop the project outside and along the Afghan borders before putting a presence on the ground within Afghanistan. Dezcallar said that the security risks of working in Afghanistan were an obvious concern at such an early stage in the project's development. Nevertheless, OSCE involvement in Afghan border issues without an eventual physical presence in Afghanistan would be counter-intuitive. AGUIRRE